



Homestead National Monument of America

2012 Special Events and Programs



Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Homestead Act of 1862

Admission to all events, exhibits and displays is free

JANUARY

Special Exhibition

Sat. & Sun., Jan. 7 & 8, 2 p.m.

Sat. & Sun., Jan. 14 & 15, 2 p.m.

Sat. & Sun., Jan. 21 & 22, 2 p.m.

Sat. & Sun., Jan. 28 & 29, 2 p.m.

Travel Back in Time: Buggies, Carts and Wagons

“Hollywood and Homesteading” Film Festival - *Far and Away*

“Hollywood and Homesteading” Film Festival - *An American Tail*

“Hollywood and Homesteading” Film Festival - *Tumbleweeds*

“Hollywood and Homesteading” Film Festival - *Day of the Outlaw*

FEBRUARY

Special Exhibition

Sat. & Sun., Feb. 4 & 5, 2 p.m.

Sat. & Sun., Feb. 11 & 12, 2 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 19, 1 p.m.

Sat. & Sun., Feb. 18 & 19, 2 p.m.

Sat. & Sun., Feb. 25 & 26, 2 p.m.

Travel Back in Time: Buggies, Carts and Wagons

“Hollywood and Homesteading” Film Festival - *Shane*

“Hollywood and Homesteading” Film Festival - *The Unforgiven*

African Americans of the Great Plains - *Honoring Black History Month*

“Hollywood and Homesteading” Film Festival - *Big River Rescue*

“Hollywood and Homesteading” Film Festival - *Abilene Town*

MARCH

Special Exhibition

Sunday, March 11, 2 p.m.

Wed. - Fri. March 28-30

Saturday, March 31

Travel Back in Time: Buggies, Carts and Wagons

From Longships to Spaceships: A Thousand Years of Exploration

Honoring Women’s History Month Program

“1862 and The Making of the Great Plains” Symposium (at UNL)

James A. Rawley Graduate Conference in the Humanities

APRIL

Special Exhibition

Sat. - Sun., April 21 – 29

Sunday, April 22, 2 p.m.

Wednesday, April 25

Wednesday, April 25, 2 p.m.

Saturday, April 28, 9 - 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 28

April 30 - May 4, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Original Homestead Act of 1862 on display, beginning April 25

From Longships to Spaceships: A Thousand Years of Exploration

National Park Week

Remembering the Oklahoma Land Rush

Welcome the *Homestead Act of 1862*

U.S. Immigration Naturalization Ceremony – *Welcome Homestead Act*

Get Out Get Fit & Spring Fling Trail Run

NEW for 2012: *Opening of the Quilt Discovery Experience*

Heartland Storytelling Festival

MAY

Special Exhibition

Sunday, May 20, 6 - 9 p.m.

Mon. - Fri., May 21 - 25

Sat., May 26, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Original Homestead Act of 1862 on display, until May 28

From Longships to Spaceships: A Thousand Years of Exploration

“Beginning of the Dream, Homestead Act Made Law”

Commemoration of Homestead Act’s 150th Anniversary

“Free Land?, 1862 and the Shaping of Modern America” Chautauqua

Monumental Fiddling Championship, featuring John McCutcheon

JUNE

Special Exhibition

Daily, June 2 – 30

Saturday, June 9, 8 a.m.

Thursday, June 14, 2 p.m.

Fri. - Sun., June 15 - 17

From Longships to Spaceships: A Thousand Years of Exploration

Living History Demonstrations

Birds and Bagels - *Early Birding at the Monument*

U.S. Immigration Naturalization Ceremony – *Flag Day*

Homestead Days 2012 - “150 years of Pursuing the American Dream”

JULY

Special Exhibition

Daily, July 1 – 31

Every Saturday, 10 a.m.

Sun., July 1, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Wednesday, July 4, 7 p.m.

Sat., July 7, 14, 21, & 28, 7 p.m.

Sun. – Sat., July 29 – Aug. 4

From Longships to Spaceships: A Thousand Years of Exploration

Living History Demonstrations

Kids in Parks Programs - *Nature Detective Series*

Laws that Build America - Homestead, Morrill & Pacific Railway Acts

Campfire Program - 150th Anniversary of the Homestead Act

July Campfire Programs - America of the Homestead Act

Art in the Park Week

AUGUST

Special Exhibition

Daily, August 1 – 31

Saturday, August 4, 10 a.m.

Sat., August 4, 11, & 18, 7 p.m.

From Longships to Spaceships: A Thousand Years of Exploration

Living History Demonstrations

Kids in Parks Programs - *Nature Detective Series*

August Campfire Programs - America of the Homestead Act

SEPTEMBER

Special Exhibition

Sat. – Mon., September 1 – 3

Sat. - Sun. September 1 - 2

Monday, September 3, 2 p.m.

Monday, September 17, 2 p.m.

Wednesday, September 26

Sat., September 29, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, September 30, 2 p.m.

Celebrate National Homesteading Education Month

From Longships to Spaceships: A Thousand Years of Exploration

Special Historical Demonstrations and Crafts

Living Homesteader Reunion Weekend

3rd Annual Old Fashioned Spelling Bee at the Freeman School

U.S. Immigration Naturalization Ceremony – *Constitution Day*

Prairie Visions Writing Festival

Public Lands Day Volunteer Project – *Deer Survey*

Prairie Appreciation Week Program

OCTOBER

Special Exhibition

Saturday, October 6, 9:30 a.m.

Wed. - Fri., October 3, 4 & 5

Sunday, October 7

Sat. - Sun., October 13 & 14

Saturday, October 20, 6 p.m.

Judy Thompson: Homestead Paintings Series

Prairie Work Day - *A Prairie Appreciation Week Event*

Pioneer Days

NEW in 2012: *The Homestead Hedge Apple Festival*

Family History Weekend - *Finding Your Homesteading Ancestors*

Howling Homestead

NOVEMBER

Special Exhibition

Sunday, November 4, 2 p.m.

Sunday, November 11, 2 p.m.

Fri. - Sun, November 23 - 25

Saturday, November 24, 10 a.m.

Sunday, November 25, 2 p.m.

Judy Thompson: Homestead Paintings Series

Winter Festival of Prairie Cultures - Opens November 23

Author Program & Book Signing

Honoring American Indian Heritage Month

Junior Ranger Weekend

Nature Detectives – *Explore your winter world*

Winter Festival of Prairie Cultures special program

DECEMBER

Special Exhibition

Sun., December 2 & 9, 2 p.m.

Saturday, December 8, 2 - 4 p.m.

Judy Thompson: Homestead Paintings Series

Winter Festival of Prairie Cultures - Closes December 31

Winter Festival of Prairie Cultures special programs

Old Fashioned Christmas at the Freeman School